Amount allocated for R and D of the LCA

2745. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: WU1 the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated in this year's Budget for R and D activities of the LCA Engine;

(b) by when the Kaveri Engine is going to be replaced with the US Engine; and

(c) what steps the Ministry had taken to avoid committing the mistakes which it had committed with the HF-24 Project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The total amount allocated for R&D activities of Kaveri engine during this year is Rs. 106 crore.

(b) Kaveri Engine with flight rating standard is likely to be offered for integration with the LCA by end 2002. Kaveri is the designated production engine for the LCA.

(c) Keeping the background of HF-24 Project Government has taken up indigenous engine development concurrently with the LCA project.

Homoeopathic treatment In general hospital, Delhi Cantt.

2746. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities of Homoeopathic System of medicine are not available in General Hospital run by Cantonment Board, Delhi Cantt.;

(b) whether Government propose to open any unit of Homoeopathic System in the General Hospital in Delhi Cantt. in near future;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is no proposal, at present, to add the facilities

of Homoeopathic System of Medicine in the General Hospital, run by the Cantonment Board, Delhi, because all systems can not be provided within the budget.

Poor Inventory Management

2747. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: WW the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news report appearing in the Business Standard dated 1st January, 2001 under the caption, "CAG pulls up Army for poor Inventory Management";

(b) if so, his reaction thereto; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken to remove the deficiencies in the Inventory Management in Ordnance Services as pointed out by the CAG in his report?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The news-item appearing in the Business Standard is based on the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG's) report on "Review of Inventory Management in Ordnance Services" published under reference of Union Government (Defence Services) No. 7-A of 2000. This report was tabled in the Parliament on 22.12.2000. The report of CAG of India was prepared after Director General of Audit Defence Services has conducted a study on this subject during 1999 and 2000 when its team visited five Central Ordnance Depots (CODs) *viz;* at Agra, Delhi Cantt. Jabalpur, Kanpur and Central Armoured Fighting Vehicle Depot (CAFVD) Kirkee.

The aim of the study was to carry out a special review of the Inventory Management policies, practices and procedures, with a view to suggesting measures to improve management of inventory held by the CODs. The aim of the report is not to identify and report failures, but to effect refinement in the existing systems. Accordingly, a number of recommendations, have been made in the report, for consideration and implementation by the Army Ordnance Corps, in particular, as also other connected organisation like Department of